

North Carolina State Specific Guidance for WIDA™ Remote Screener

Purpose

The North Carolina State Specific Guidance for the WIDA™ Remote Screener is produced by the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction (NCDPI) Division of Accountability Services. It contains North Carolina specific policies and procedures as they apply to screening English Learners (ELs) with the WIDA Remote Screener. The guidance provided in this publication does not replace written procedures provided by the test publisher. Any public school unit staff member involved in the administration of this screener is required, prior to administration, to complete the test publisher's recommended training and read the associated administration manuals. The WIDA Remote Screener training materials are found in the [WIDA secure portal](#).

Remote Screener Administrator Requirements

It is highly recommended that the WIDA Remote Screener is administered by a certified English as a Second Language (ESL) teacher who has a background as an English language educator. Additionally, administrators of the WIDA Remote Screener are **required** to be certified to administer the WIDA Screener and score the WIDA Screener Speaking test.

Eligible Students

Any student attending school in a virtual instructional setting (Plan C) is eligible to be screened using the WIDA Remote Screener.

Testing Window

The WIDA Remote Screener may be administered to a student in a virtual instructional setting and will identify a student as an EL until the student returns to instruction in Plan A or Plan B and can be administered the state-approved W-APT or WIDA Screener. Additionally, public school units have forty-five (45) days to screen students using the WIDA Remote Screener and an additional forty-five (45) days to administer the state-approved W-APT or WIDA Screener when students return to instruction in Plan A or Plan B during the 2020–21 school year.

Administrative Considerations

- The WIDA Remote Screener is a North Carolina State Board of Education approved screening **option** administered to students who are participating in remote learning only where in-person screening is not feasible.
- Young students (kindergarten through at least grade 5) should complete the screening activities with a responsible adult present in the student's physical location.
- The WIDA Remote Screener was specifically designed to enable screening when the student and test administrator cannot share a physical space, and was designed to be simple and brief.
- The public school unit must deliver the necessary WIDA Remote Screener materials to a student prior to scheduling and administering the screener.

- The school must set a (mutually agreed upon) appointment time with the student and parent/guardian.
- The test administrator is in contact with the student via phone or video call/conference platform for the duration of the test administration.
- When a video call is not possible, WIDA recommends having an interpreter who speaks the student's home language join the call to explain the screening process to the student and to the student's parent or guardian or another responsible adult in the household.
- The WIDA Remote Screener only includes Listening, Speaking, and Reading.

Accommodations

Accommodations for the WIDA Remote Screener may be provided only to ELs with disabilities when they are documented in a current IEP or Section 504 Plan and the student requires the accommodation(s) to participate in the test meaningfully and appropriately. Test administrators are encouraged to collaborate with case managers to encourage child-centered, results-oriented decision making. For additional information on providing testing accommodations, refer to the [Testing Students with Disabilities](#) publication.

WIDA Remote Screener Materials

The WIDA Remote Screener is designed to be administered to a student using a video call (locally determined video conferencing platform) whenever the option is available.

Materials required for administration:

- Student packet
- A device with video conferencing capabilities (which can access locally determined video call/conferencing platform)

Timing

Public school units should schedule a 30-minute call with each student to provide the WIDA Remote Screener. Most students will complete the screener before the scheduled call has elapsed. If a call is dropped or internet connection is lost, the test administrator should call again and administer the test from the point where the connection was lost.

PowerSchool

Students identified as provisional ELs using the WIDA Remote Screener should be given an EL Record in PowerSchool. These students will be included in the October 1 English Learner Headcount and will be part of the Pre-ID Label Pull for ACCESS for ELLs testing in December.

If a W-APT or WIDA Screener test identifies the student as NEVER, the record in PowerSchool updates when scores are submitted.